

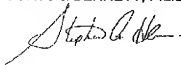
REMARKS

Claims 1-10, 22-30, and 41-57 were pending with claims 1, 22, 41, and 57 being independent. The Office Action maintains that claims 1, 22, 41, and 57 are obvious over Hayashi (GB 2,380,908) in view of Dowling (U.S. Pat. App. Pub. No. 2002/0038157), and in further view of Towell (U.S. Pat. No. 5,911,129). However, the Office Action also indicates that claims 44-47 contain allowable subject matter.

Accordingly, Applicants have amended claim 41 to incorporate the limitations of claims 42-44. Allowed claim 45 has also been amended to incorporate the limitations of claim 41 and is now in independent form. Claims 1-40, 42-44, and 56-57 have been cancelled without prejudice. No new matter has been added.

All pending claims are now in condition for allowance. As such, Applicant respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance for all pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,
COATS & BENNETT, P.L.L.C.



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Stephen A. Herrera
Registration No.: 47,642

1400 Crescent Green, Suite 300
Cary, NC 27518

Telephone: (919) 854-1844
Facsimile: (919) 854-2084